

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 664189	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/JP2004/004250	International filing date (day/month/year) 26.03.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 02.04.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC		
Applicant YUYAMA MFG. CO., LTD.		

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>6</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>																									
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. I</td> <td>Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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Box No. I

Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☒ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☐ the description:
- pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the claims:
- nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the drawings:
- sheets _____ as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-5	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-5	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-5	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)			
Document 1: US 5468080 A (William B. JONES), 21 November 1995			
Document 2: JP 9-58603 A (Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd.), 04 March 1997			
Claims 1 and 5			
<p>The inventions that are set forth in claims 1 and 5 do not involve an inventive step in the light of document 1 and document 2 cited in the international search report, for the following reasons.</p>			
<p>Document 1 (refer to column 4, lines 23 to 30) discloses the feature of providing a directional roller (64) within the transfer path from the printer carriage (54) to the forming section (36) and then adjusting the vertical position of the directional roller (64) in order to adjust the tension of the film for proper printing.</p>			
<p>Document 2 (refer to column 5, lines 11 to 22 and column 6, line 37 to column 7, line 39) discloses a solid medicine packaging device which prints the name of a product and the directions for the use thereof on the packaging paper (20) by means of a printer (22), inserts a solid medicine into the packaging paper (20) by means of a shooter (13) and then heat-seals the packaging paper</p>			

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

(20) by means of a heat sealing mechanism (27); therein, the curved part (24A) between the printer (22) and the heat sealing mechanism (27) is provided with a tension roller (26) that is energized towards the side of the curved part (24A) by means of a coil spring, and the position of the tension roller (26) is detected by means of a switch.

When transporting a web, it is common practice for a person skilled in the art to adjust the tension of the web by means of a roller that moves so as to maintain a constant level of tension.

In addition, when transporting a web it is also common practice for a person skilled in the art to provide a position detection means for detecting the position of a roller which moves in response to the tension of the web that is being transported, and to control the device based on the detected position of the roller.

In the light of the features indicated above, it would be easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of configuring so that the directional roller (64) disclosed in document 1 moves so as to maintain a constant level of tension for proper printing; likewise, it would also be easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of providing a position detection means for detecting the vertical position of the directional roller (64), and then starting printing by means of the printer carriage (54) after the detection of a prescribed vertical position, which corresponds to a constant level of tension that has been adjusted for proper printing.

In addition, it would be easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of providing the shooter (13) for

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

inserting a solid medicine, which is disclosed in document 2, to the formation unit (36) that is disclosed in document 1 and configuring so that the resulting invention is used to package solid medicines.

Claim 2

In addition to the items that are indicated in relation to claims 1 and 5, above, when transporting a web it is common practice for a person skilled in the art to adjust the tension of the web by means of a roller provided with an energizing means, which moves so as to maintain a constant level of tension.

Therefore, it would be easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of providing an energizing means to the directional roller (64) that is disclosed in document 1, and of configuring so that said directional roller (64) moves so as to maintain a constant level of tension for proper printing.

Consequently, the invention that is set forth in claim 2 does not involve an inventive step in the light of document 1 and document 2 cited in the international search report.

Claims 3 and 4

In addition to the items that are indicated in relation to claim 2, above, when transporting a web it is common practice for a person skilled in the art to adjust the tension of the web by means of a roller provided with an energizing means comprising a spring, which moves so as to maintain a constant level of tension.

Therefore, it would be easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of providing an energizing means that

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comprises a spring to the directional roller (64) that is disclosed in document 1, and of configuring so that said directional roller (64) moves so as to maintain a constant level of tension for proper printing.

In addition, the support structure and the movement direction of the abovementioned directional roller (64) that is disclosed in document 1 could have been selected by a person skilled in the art with consideration of the film transport stability and/or the passage for transporting the film, as appropriate. In addition, it would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of attaching the abovementioned directional roller (64) that is disclosed in document 1 to an elevator and then detecting the elevation of said elevator by means of the position detection means.

Consequently, the inventions that are set forth in claims 3 and 4 do not involve an inventive step in the light of document 1 and document 2 cited in the international search report.